



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882

July 11, 2012

Mr. Kevin Kennedy, Director
Government Accountability Board
212 E. Washington Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Dear Director Kennedy,

The problems that surfaced in the recall election of the 21st Senate District should be of great concern to every citizen in the state of Wisconsin. From the tampering of ballot bags to unsigned poll books, there are serious questions regarding the integrity of our election process. There seems to be a disregard to the statutes that clearly state the new requirements for same-day registration. Proof of residence came down to what you could find in the trash from disregarded junk mail. It is an utter mockery of our system and clerks are simply not complying with the law. The Racine Sheriff's Department was investigating several of these incidents. We are requesting that the Government Accountability Board should do what's necessary to resolve these issues before the November election.

First, the GAB must ensure that county clerks and local poll workers understand the proof-of-residency law. Hand-written receipts, coupons to a local store that are addressed to "Current Resident" are not valid proof and should not be accepted. Poll books also need to be properly signed. In addition, municipalities must verify new voters' addresses within 10 days of the election. If the GAB doesn't address these problems and correct them, it would only welcome more potential voter irregularities in future elections. Our state can't have our election process undermined by questions of potential fraud.

We would like to know the specific plans that the GAB will pursue to restore the trust in our election process. The situation in the 21 Senate District is a wake-up call to the state. We have laws on the books that are not being followed and a recall election that made a mockery of our election system. Elections are the essence of our state and our country. We can't afford to ignore the obvious issues, too much is at stake.

Sincerely,

Rep. Jeff Fitzgerald
Assembly Speaker

Representative Robin Vos
Co-Chair Joint Finance Committee

Rep. Scott Suder
Assembly Majority Leader

Rep. Bill Kramer
Speaker Pro Tempore

Rep. Dan Knodl
Assistant Majority Leader

Rep. Joan Ballweg
Caucus Chairperson